



JOHN

Chapter 15:1-8

Remain in **CHRIST**

Easter 5
Sunday, May 02, 2021
Full Script



Cross of Glory Lutheran Church & School

623-224-8839

www.crossofglory.org

Rev. John Ehlers, Pastor

Rev. Benjamin Foxen, Pastor

Jomax Campus
10111 W Jomax Road,
Peoria, AZ 85383
Sat. 6pm and Sun. 9am Worship

Vistancia Campus
Lake Pleasant Elementary School
31501 N. Westland Road
Peoria, AZ 85383
Sun. 9:30am Worship

Welcome to Cross of Glory's online worship! God defines a church as people gathering around Word and Sacrament, and we recognize that this can happen via technology as well as in a physical building. Thank the Lord for blessing us with the means to continue worshipping together in this way! As you join us in this gathering, we pray that Jesus' peace and power fill you.

Please take the time to note some things about how worship will work online:

Attendance – We would still like to gather an accurate account of who is worshipping with us for each service. Please let us know you are worshipping by commenting in the chat box. List your full name (first and last) in your message.

Chatting and discussing – Before and after each service, there is time available to chat with others. We invite you to do so, as this is a way we can preserve the sense of community we have on a normal Sunday morning. We do ask that you keep chatting to a minimum during the service, so that others can focus on what's happening.

Giving – Please continue to give your attention to the gifts God asks you to give to support his work. During the time of the offering, an encouragement will be given to give electronically. You can do so by clicking the menu icon (3 horizontal bars) in the upper left corner, next to where it says Cross of Glory Lutheran Church. Then click the word "Giving" to go to our Vanco page. You can also give by scanning the QR code in the bulletin with your phone's camera, or by mailing a check to us at 10111 W Jomax Rd, Peoria, AZ 85383. Thank you for your continued support during this difficult time!



God bless our time together in worship today!

Worship focus

"I am the vine; you are the branches." *John 15:5*. It is the perfect picture of our relationship to Jesus. Could the relationship be a closer one? There has to be a certain correspondence between the two parts, the vine and the branches. That correspondence is accomplished by the gospel that makes us branches pure like the vine.

Now the fruit from the good vine can be good fruit, pure because of its source in the vine. The rotten and the corrupt is pruned away. The process may indeed be painful, but it is a process that is necessary. We might note in passing that it takes a while to determine that a branch is really dead and will never bear fruit; the Lord who sees everything is patient; we who see little need to be patient too. The branches pruned once were alive, once were connected to the vine. How tragic that they have chosen to die! Look for fruit that proves there is life in the branch. What is the fruit? It is a life that delights to receive all its strength from the vine. It is evident in the life we live with our family, at work and school, in service done as precious and good fruit that pleases him. It is the life of stewardship of all the energy and impulse that comes from remaining in Christ.

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Divine Service II

 **OPENING HYMN** God of Mercy, God of Grace | *CW249 Melody: CW153 3 Vs.*

God of mercy, God of grace, Show the brightness of your face.
Shine upon us, Savior, shine; Fill your Church with light divine,
And your saving health extend To the earth's remotest end.
Let the people praise you, Lord! Be by all that live adored.
Let the nations shout and sing Glory to their Savior King,
At your feet their tribute pay, And your holy will obey.
Let the people praise you, Lord, Then enjoy your rich reward!
God to us his blessing give, We to God devoted live,
All below and all above One in joy and light and love.

INVOCATION

(Spoken Responsively)

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

(Spoken Responsively)

M: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin. For faithless worrying and selfish pride, for sins of habit and sins of choice, for the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do, you should cast me away from your presence forever. O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.

M: Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

(Spoken Responsively)

M: In peace, let us pray to the Lord. For the well-being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from you all they need to sustain body and life, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For the spread of your life-giving gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith in you, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C: Christ, have mercy.

M: For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await your return, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: Lord of life, live in us that we may live for you.

C: Amen.

GLORY BE TO GOD

(Sung to the tune of "I Know that My Redeemer Lives" | CW152 4 Vs)

**All glory be to God on high! Your name, O Lord, we glorify;
We praise you for your peace and grace, Your favor towards our fallen race.**

**Our grateful thanks to you we bring, For your great glory, heav'nly King,
For all, O Father, you have done Through Jesus Christ, your only Son.**

**O Lamb of God, to you we pray, You take all human sin away;
Have mercy, Lord; receive our prayer; From God's right hand, your mercy share.**

**You, Christ, are holy-Lord alone; The Father's glory you made known.
We by your Spirit sing again: "All glory be to God!" Amen.**

SALUTATION

(Spoken Responsively)

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

(Spoken by Minister)

M: O God, you form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that among the many changes of this world, our hearts may ever yearn for the lasting joys of heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Acts 4:32-37

All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. ³³ With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all ³⁴ that there were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales ³⁵ and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need. ³⁶ Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means "son of encouragement"), ³⁷ sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet.

PSALM 63

(Spoken Responsively)

M: You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you;

C: I thirst for you, my whole being longs for you, in a dry and parched land where there is no water.

M: I have seen you in the sanctuary and beheld your power and your glory.

C: Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you.

M: I will praise you as long as I live, and in your name I will lift up my hands.

C: I will be fully satisfied as with the richest of foods; with singing lips my mouth will praise you.

M: Because you are my help, I sing in the shadow of your wings.

C: I cling to you; your right hand upholds me.

M: Those who want to kill me will be destroyed; they will go down to the depths of the earth.

C: They will be given over to the sword and become food for jackals.

M: But the king will rejoice in God;

C: All who swear by God will glory in him, while the mouths of liars will be silenced.

THE CHILDREN'S SERMON

(All children are invited to sit in front with Pastor)

SECOND LESSON

1 John 3:18-24

Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth. ¹⁹This is how we know that we belong to the truth and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence: ²⁰If our hearts condemn us, we know that God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God ²²and receive from him anything we ask, because we keep his commands and do what pleases him. ²³And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us. ²⁴The one who keeps God's commands lives in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us.

VERSE OF THE DAY

(Spoken by Minister; Sung Response by Congregation)

M: Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia. I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord. Alleluia. *(John 14:6)*

Sung by the Congregation:

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Faith comes from hearing the message,
and the message is heard through the Word of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

SERMON HYMN

Christ, the Word of God Incarnate | *WS750 4 Vs.*

**Christ, the Word of God incarnate, Lord and Son of Abraham;
Christ, the radiance of the Father, Perfect God, the great I Am;
Christ, the Light, you shine unvanquished, Light and life you bring to all;
Light our path with your own presence, Grant us grace to heed your call.**

Christ, the shoot that springs triumphant From the stump of Jesse's tree;
Christ, true vine , you nurture branches To bear fruit abundantly.
Graft us into you, O Savior; Prune our hearts so we remain
Fruitful branches in your vineyard Till eternal life we gain.

Christ, the way that leads unflinching To the Father's home on high;
Christ, the truth that frees the captive; Christ, the life that can –not die.
Mediator, to the Father, Sacrifice and Great High Priest;
Lead us to your heav'nly mansions, There to share your wed -ding feast
Christ, the Alpha and Omega; Christ the firstborn from the dead;
Christ, the life and resurrection; Christ the Church's glorious head:
Praise and thanks and adoration And unending worship be
To the Father and the Spirit And to you eternally.

SERMON

Remain in Christ

John 15:1-8

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. ²He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. ³You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. ⁵“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. ⁷If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

CD recordings of sermons freely supplied for study or sharing. Please request on the Connection Card .

THE NICENE CREED

(Read Responsively)

M: The world claims everything evolved by accident. But what do Christians believe?

C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

M: The world claims Jesus was only a noble and novel man. But what do Christians believe?

C: We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in ac-

cordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

M: The world claims all people have an inborn, godly spirit. What do Christians believe?

C: We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE OFFERING AND OFFERING PRAYER

(Spoken by Minister)

RITE OF CONFIRMATION

Michael Harmon

Romans 1:16

*For I am not ashamed of the gospel,
because it is the power of God
that brings salvation to everyone who believes.*

Conner Moe

Isaiah 40:31

*Those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles;
they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint.*

Hailey Ditter

John 8:12

*"I am the light of the world.
Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness,
but will have the light of life."*

Laina Brown

Matthew 28:20

*And surely I am with you always,
to the very end of the age."*

Isaac Patterson

John 14:6

*I am the way and the truth and the life.
No one comes to the Father except through me.*

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

(Spoken by Minister)

THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

(Read Responsively)

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is good and right so to do.

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who rose from the dead in glorious triumph to bring forgiveness to the world and everlasting life to all who believe. Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

(Sung to the tune of "I Lay My Sins on Jesus" (CW 372) 2 Vs.)

**O holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might,
Your glory, earth and heaven, In countless ways recite.
Hosanna! Come and save us, Lord God of hosts on high,
And in your grace and mercy Receive our fervent cry.
Hosanna in the highest! How truly blest is he
Who in God's name is coming To set his people free!
He comes to bring salvation And with his blood outpoured,
Deliver us from bondage-Hosanna, mighty Lord!**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

(Spoken by Minister)

M: Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power. By his incarnation, he became one with us. By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will. By his innocent death, he overcame hell. By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven. Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

C: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Spoken in Unison)

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

(Spoken by Minister)

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

LAMB OF GOD

(Sung by Congregation)

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us your peace. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION OF SACRAMENT

(Please refer to "Worship Welcome" in chair pocket)

*We follow the Scriptural practice of **CLOSE COMMUNION**. If you have not communed here prior to today, you should speak with our pastor before the service. We would like to help you establish the unity which comes from a common confession of faith (1 Corinthians 10:17) before expressing that union together at the Lord's Table. It is not our intent to judge hearts, but to remain faithful to the truth of God's Word. Those who have established that connection as members of sister WELS or ELS congregations may register at the podium at the sanctuary entrance. Thank you for honoring our practice.*

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice (CW377)

**Dear Christians, one and all, rejoice, With exultation springing,
And, with united heart and voice And holy rapture singing,
Proclaim the wonders God has done, How his right arm the vict'ry won.
How dearly it has cost him!**

**Fast bound in Satan's chains I lay; Death brooded darkly o'er me.
Sin was my torment night and day; In sin my mother bore me.
Yet deep and deeper still I fell; Life had become a living hell,
So firmly sin possessed me.**

**My own good works availed me naught, No merit they attaining;
My will against God's judgment fought, No hope for me remaining.**

My fears increased till sheer despair Left naught but death to be my share
And hell to be my sentence.

But God beheld my wretched state Before the world's foundation,
And, mindful of his mercies great, He planned my soul's salvation.
A Father's heart he turned to me, Sought my redemption fervently;
He gave his dearest treasure.

He spoke to his beloved Son: "'Tis time to have compassion.
Then go, bright Jewel of my crown, And bring mankind salvation.
From sin and sorrow set them free; Slay bitter death for them that they
May live with you forever."

The Son obeyed his Father's will, Was born of virgin mother,
And, God's good pleasure to fulfill, He came to be my brother.
No garb of pomp or pow'r he wore; A servant's form like mine he bore
To lead the devil captive.

To me he spoke, "Hold fast to me I am your rock and castle.
Your ransom I myself will be; For you I strive and wrestle.
For I am yours, your friend divine, And evermore you shall be mine;
The foe shall not divide us.

"The foe shall shed my precious blood, Me of my life bereaving.
All this I suffer for your good; Be steadfast and believing.
Life shall from death the vict'ry win; My innocence shall bear your sin,
And you are blest forever.

"Now to my Father I depart, The Holy Spirit sending
And, heav'nly wisdom to impart, My help to you extending.
He will a source of comfort be, Teach you to know and follow me,
And in all truth will guide you.

"What I on earth have lived and taught Be all your life and teaching;
So shall my kingdom's work be wrought And honored in your preaching.
Take care that no one's man-made laws Should e'er destroy the gospel's cause.
This final word I leave you."

SONG OF SIMEON

(Sung to the tune of "O Savior, Precious Savior" (CW 368) 2 Vs)

O Lord, now let your servant Depart in peace, assured:
For I have seen your promised incarnate, saving Word
A light that will enlighten All gloom where Gentiles dwell;
The brilliant, crowning glory Of those in Israel!

All glory to the Father, All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit, Forever three in one;
For as in the beginning, Is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding Through all eternity.

CLOSING PRAYER

(Spoken by Minister)

M: We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

BLESSING

(Spoken by Minister)

M: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Lord, Help Us Ever to Retain | CW514—*Melody: CW233 4 Vs.*

Lord, help us ever to retain The Catechism's doctrine plain
As Luther taught the Word of truth In simple style to tender youth.
Help us your holy law to learn, To mourn our sin and from it turn
In faith to you and to your Son And Holy Spirit, Three in One.
Hear us, dear Father, when we pray For needed help from day to day
That as your children we may live, Whom you in baptism did receive.
Lord, when we fall or go astray, Absolve and lift us up, we pray;
And through the sacrament increase Our faith till we depart in peace.

PERSONAL PRAYERS FOR COMMUNION

Before Communing

Lord, I am not worthy to be a guest at your holy table. But you are the friend of sinners, and you will not cast me out. This bread is your body, which bore my sins upon the tree. This wine is your blood, which purifies me from all guilt. At your invitation, I come rejoicing. Receive me, my Savior.

After Communing

Thank you, Lord Jesus Christ, for nourishing me in this sacrament with your body and blood. You have given me forgiveness, life, and salvation. Let me always remain in you as a branch remains in the vine. Send me out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

THIS WEEK AT CROSS OF GLORY

May 4, 6:00 p.m.	Evangelism Meeting
May 4, 7:00 p.m.	Elders Meeting
May 5, 6:30 p.m.	Grams Growth Group
May 6, 10:00 a.m.	Mom's Growth Group
May 8, 6:00 p.m.	Worship Service (Jomax)
May 8, 6:00 p.m.	Worship Service (Facebook Live)
May 9, 9:00 a.m.	Worship Service (Jomax)
May 9, 9:00 a.m.	Worship Service (Online)
May 9, 9:30 a.m.	Worship Service (Vistancia at New River)
May 9, 10:30 a.m.	Sunday Morning Bible Study
May 9, 10:30 a.m.	Sunday School

LOOKING AHEAD

May 10, 6:30 p.m.	New River Growth Group
May 11, 6:30 p.m.	Church Council Meeting
May 12, 6:30 p.m.	Grams' Growth Group
May 13, 10:00 a.m.	Mom's Growth Group
May 13, 6:30 p.m.	BIC Class - Pastor Foxen
May 15, 6:00 p.m.	Worship Service w/Communion (Jomax)
May 15, 6:00 p.m.	Worship Service (Facebook Live)
May 16, 9:00 a.m.	Worship Service w/Communion (Jomax)
May 16, 9:00 a.m.	Worship Service (Online)
May 16, 9:30 a.m.	Worship Service w/Communion (Vistancia at New River)
May 16, 10:30 a.m.	Sunday Morning Bible Study
May 16, 10:30 a.m.	Sunday School

Finance Manager Position

We are receiving applications for a finance manager. The deadline for applications has been extended. If you're interested in the position, you can get a full description from the office. Applications can be picked up at the office.

This position requires proficiency in MS Office and accounting software such as QuickBooks. The responsibilities include church/school accounting and billing; providing monthly reports for the treasurer, pastors and principal; and ability to learn new programs such as TADS and Realm. This person will be working directly with the treasurer to make sure all financial activity is organized and searchable.

Voters Meeting

Last Sunday we held our quarterly voters' meeting. It was fairly well attended (22 voters plus a good number of women and a guest). Two major items were on the agenda. First, was the budgets for our various areas of ministry (Jomax, Vistancia, and school). These budgets will help guide our ministry efforts for the coming fiscal year (21-22). The voters passed these budgets.

The other item on the agenda was the building project. A lot of information was shared regarding where the project now stands. Due to increases in the cost of fuel and materials, the cost of the project has increased as well. Previously, the council had asked the congregation for permission to pursue a \$900k increase in our loan. To accomplish the project now, the council has stated that it will need permission to ask for \$1.3 million in additional financing instead of the original \$900k. After showing a financial forecast that demonstrates the ability of the congregation and school to shoulder the additional mortgage expense this would create, the council presented its motion for this request, and the voters approved it. We are excited to be able to move forward with this project. Church Extension Fund (CEF), our current lender, has also informed us that they are now open to extend loans to established congregations. We will be submitting our loan application and should hear whether we've been approved by the end of May.

You can still access all the documents from the meeting in the weekly news. When the minutes become available, we will post them as well.

Thank you to all who continue to support our church and school with your time, talents, and treasures. May God bless our efforts to expand the ministry of the gospel here at Cross of Glory!

Pastors' Conference

Pastor Ehlers will be at a pastors' conference May 4-5. If anyone is in need of a pastor while he is gone, please contact Pastor Foxen. Due to the conference, Pastor Ehlers is canceling the evangelism meeting in May.

Meditations & Used Meditations

New *Meditations* are in your box if you ordered them, or you can find a copy in the entry on the bookshelf.

When you pick up your next quarter's *Meditations*, drop off your used copy from the last quarter. There is a box next to the new *Meditations*. The WELS Prison Ministry appreciates this donation and distributes *Meditations* to prisoners who are always anxious to receive them. Thank you.

Vacation Bible School

This year VBS is July 26th-30th. If you are able to help please sign up in link from weekly news or let Liz or Pastor Foxen know. If you are wanting to register your child the link is available in the weekly news.

Private Communion

During this time, many have been watching our worship services online. We're glad we have this capability so that people can worship the way they are most comfortable. Unfortunately, people who watch online do not have the opportunity to receive the Lord's Supper. If any would like to receive Communion in the home, please contact the office or one of the pastors, and one of them will happily set up a time to visit you so you can partake of this sacrament.

Counters

We need a few more volunteers for counting offerings after church on Sundays. If you are interested in helping count please contact John Wempner at jandlwempner@gmail.com.

Fellowship and Refreshments

We are thrilled that we will resume refreshments and fellowship following the service on Sunday, May 30. If you are interested in getting on the schedule to provide refreshments and clean up afterward, please contact Clara Naber at cnaber42@gmail.com.

Communion Setup and Alter Guild Leader

We need volunteers to help on the Communion set-up rotation and an Altar Guild leader to spearhead the changing of paraments. If you are interested in helping, please contact Lynn Wempner.

Church Cleaners

Cross of Glory is in need of a few more church cleaners for the rotation. If you are able to help, please contact Liz to add you to the rotation. If we have enough people, the rotation is once every two months. Contact Liz at cog.secretary@crossofglory.org.

Jomax Worship Volunteers	May 9th	May 16th	May 23rd
Counters	Wempner/ Voight	Wempner/ Brooks	Wempner/ Schirripa
Cleaners	Patterson/ Pappenfuss	Martins/ Ehlers	Kelley/ Grams
Communion Setup	-	Sharon Kull	-
Ushers	Gary Jeffers John Wempner Aaron Gullerud	Chris Patterson Isaac Patterson Titus Patterson	Cody Hall Levi Foxen Tanner Plitzuweit

Vistancia News

Our first Sunday in New River went well. We had visitors that want to continue worship with us. We are going to continue worship at the Kiwanis park for the time being as we won't have a place to worship in Vistancia until August. If you are interested in joining us, the address is 48606 N 17th Ave, New River, Az. When using navigation, Google maps is the best choice, Apple may get you lost. Our service time is 9:30 a.m.

Communion will be at 9:00 a.m. on Communion Sundays in New River.

LWMS Spring Rally at Cross of Glory

The LWMS Grand Canyon West Circuit Spring Rally was held at Cross of Glory this Saturday, April 17th. We had about 40 people in attendance, and 10 or so were from Cross of Glory.

The guest speaker for the rally was Pastor Jonathan Leach, who serves as the chairman of the East Asia Administrative Committee. Administrative committees oversee the various mission fields of our synod. The committee members visit the mission fields to help them in their work. Pastor Leach gave a riveting presentation on the work being done in that part of the world, outlining the challenges as well as the tremendous blessings. The Lord is advancing his gospel throughout the world! If you'd like to hear some details on the work, ask Pastor Foxen or one of the Cross of Glory women who attended.

Talent Show

Thanks to all the performers for making a bright spot for us all! Special thanks to the Akaos and Gulleruds for their equipment and to our dear Cross of Glory pastors and Mrs. Severeid for bringing the fun between acts! Thanks also goes to Thrivent Financial for the action team to purchase concessions and to the Woodworths for the food truck! All praise and glory to God for his gift of fun times with friends!

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

For members and friends with noteworthy blessings, difficulties or health issues. Today we especially remember in our prayers and ask God to give strength, comfort and courage to them and their families.

Mike Cappello, the husband of Michelle Cappello and friend of Carol Hanes, has been in a coma since April 16.

Dave Sauer, Praises for the successful hip surgery after biking fall, prayers for continued healing.

Karen Juardo, as she recovers at home after her recent hospitalization.

Michelle Zane, who underwent successful knee replacement revision on February 23 and is now at home recovering.

Judy Sasse, as she recovers from a broken wrist and stitches on her face from a fall.

Juanita Word, who is recovering at home after a fall.

Gerry Ehlers, the brother of Pastor Ehlers, diagnosed with stage 4 cancer and undergoes treatments.

MILITARY

E4 Specialist Alice Henderson, granddaughter of Larry and Faye Kennedy, at San Antonio, TX Ft. Sam Houston Army base in Medical Institute of Surgery Research: Burn Unit.

E6 Specialist Staff Sgt. Austin Seignious, grandson-to-be of Larry and Faye Kennedy, at El Paso, TX Ft. Bliss Army Base.

Major JD Larson, son of John & Chi Larson, based at Kirkland AFB in New Mexico.

Sara (Dan) McArdle, daughter of Martha (Scott) Wofford, Air Force Pilot, based in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Sgt. Blake Andrew Nelsen, son of Rick & Karyn Nelsen and brother of Seri & Lilli, USMC.

Ben Weyer, serving in the military, Currently deployed to the Persian Gulf. Please pray that our Heavenly Father keeps him safe in his journey.

The Family of Merl Meitner, who served Cross of Glory Lutheran School as a one-year emergency teacher (after his retirement from the teaching ministry), unexpectedly died on Friday, March 5. A service of Christian funeral will be held on June 26, 2021, in Chetek, WI, officiated by Pastor Jeff Seelow of Redeemer Lutheran Church, Rice Lake, WI. All memorials are to be directed to West Lutheran High School, 3350 Harbor Ln N, Plymouth, MN 55447. All sympathy cards can be mailed to Cinda at 1416 Second St., Chetek, WI 54728.



Cross of Glory was planted by the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) in March 1998 so that with the Gospel of Jesus she can strengthen the faith of her members and reach out into the community with the free gift of salvation. First worship services began at Easter 1999; the dedication of our Ministry Center at Easter, 2005. On Easter of 2017, we began services at our second site in the Vistancia community. Our synod's name reflects that her founders began in the state of Wisconsin. As a WELS church we still hold to the teachings of the Bible restored in the Reformation era. We are...

- a Christ-preaching church. We preach that Jesus is true God, the Son of God who became man, so that through his perfect life and innocent death, He is the prophesied "Lamb of God" who has taken away the sin of the world.
- a Bible-believing church. We teach that the Bible is the verbally inspired, inerrant Word of God, the only authority for Christian faith and life. We aim to teach God's Word in all its truth and simplicity.
- an evangelical church. We trust the Bible's claim that God saves people through the power of the Gospel in the Word and Sacraments. The Gospel is the Good News (the Evangel) about Jesus' saving work. The WELS has congregations throughout the USA and around the world to share the Evangel, the Bible's primary message, with all people.
- a people-caring church. That we're all sinners equally saved by Jesus' substitutionary work strips away human judgments and egos. This truth also empowers us to live Jesus' love for all people by offering friendship, support, and Biblical counseling. Our church family cares about other people-- including you.

Our Preschool & Elementary School exists to help parents in their God-given duty of teaching the Faith to their children: an important aspect of our Church's plan to grow a comprehensive womb-to tomb ministry that serves souls for eternity.

Saturday Worship at 6pm (Jomax)
Sunday Worship at 9am (Jomax) 9:30am (Vistancia)
Bible Study Session 10:30am (Jomax)